

REMARKS

Claims 1-35 presently stand subject to a restriction and/or election requirement pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 121. The Office Action requires that Applicant elect one Group of invention from the five Groups the Examiner has identified, namely: Group IA (claims 1-4 and 6-32, drawn to a process of releasing energy by plasma discharge generated by a voltage from 50 to 20,000 volts); Group IB (claims 1-3 and 5-32, drawn to a process of releasing energy by plasma discharge generated by a voltage greater than 20,000 volts); Group IIA (claims 33-35, drawn to an apparatus with an electrolyte capable of initiating transitions of hydrogen atoms); Group IIB (claims 33-35, drawn to an apparatus with an electrolyte capable of initiating transitions of deuterium atoms); and Group IIC (claims 33-35, drawn to an apparatus with an electrolyte capable of initiating transitions of hydrogen and deuterium atoms).

The Examiner also listed additional Group Species elections that are required under 35 U.S.C. 121 for purposes of examination. If either Group IA or IB is elected, the Examiner requires Applicant to elect one of two species, either Species Ic (wherein the cathode electrode is comprised of a single material) or Species Id (wherein the cathode electrode is comprised of a sheath of nickel or foil wrapped on a substrate). If Species Ic is elected, Applicant is then required to elect a single species of electrode material. If Applicant elects Species Id, Applicant is required to elect a single species of substrate material.

The Examiner has also listed several other elections required if Group IA or IB is selected, namely: election of a single species of the product of the metal hydride dissociation; election of a single species of anode material; election of a single species of the electrolyte; election of a single species of the reactive ingredient of the electrolyte that is consumed; and election of a single species of the fusion pathway.

ELECTION

Applicant hereby elects Group IA, Species Ic, the species being a method of releasing energy by a plasma discharge generated by applying a voltage across electrodes in the range of 50 to 20,000 volts using a cathode electrode of a single material, namely tungsten, an anode of platinum, and an electrolyte of ~~water~~; and wherein the only reactive ingredient consumed by the reaction is

deuterated water

^{deuterium}water, and where a metal hydride is formed on an electrode which dissociates to form ^{deuterium}(hydrogen) atoms; and wherein the fusion occurs via a fusion pathway $D + D = T + H$ (the second pathway recited in claim 32). The claims that would read on this species would be claims 1-4 6-22, and 24-32.


CONCLUSION

Reconsideration of this application is requested. In view of the foregoing election, Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's undersigned attorney if any unresolved matters remain.

A Notice of Allowability is courteously solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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